

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEHRAN 1085

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EFIN, UK, IR

SUBJ: STATUS OF IRANIAN SECOND \$400 MILLION TRANCHE TO UK

REFS: 75 TEHRAN 10107, LONDON 00465

1. DURING ROUTINE DISCUSSION OF IRANIAN BALANCE OF PAYMENTS WITH FINANCIAL OFFICER OF UK EMBASSY TEHRAN, EMBOFF ASKED CONCERNING THE STATUS OF THE SECOND \$400 MILLION TRANCHE OF THE IRANIAN LOAN AGREEMENT TO THE UK(LONDON WATER BOARD), CONFIRMED TO CHANCELLOR HEALEY IN OCTOBER VISIT HERE(FIRST REF). BRITISH EMBOFF SAID THERE IS CONCERN OVER THE DISBURSEMENT BUT THE GOI HAS UNTIL AROUND MID-FEBRUARY(HE GAVE NO DATE) TO FULFILL THE SECOND TRANCHE OBLIGATION UNDER THE LOAN AGREEMENT. SINCE THE GOI MAINTAINS PUBLICLY THAT IT IS FULL FILLING COMMITMENTS UNDER ITS FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM THE BRITISH EMBASSY BELIEVES(HOPES) IT WILL DISBURSE AND PRESERVE ITS CREDIT WORTHY IMAGE. LITTLE INDICATION OF WHETHER OR NOT THE \$400 MILLION DISBURSEMENT WILL OCCUR CAN BE OBTAINED FROM CENTRAL BANK SINCE RESPONSIBLE OFFICIALS VARY IN THEIR ESTIMATES OF CURRENT IRANIAN YEAR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE BETWEEN \$2.5 AND \$3.5 BILLION DOLLARS: DISBURSEMENTS OF TWO BILLION DOLLARS OCCURRED IN THE EIGHT MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 21. HELMS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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